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Warbasse, J. P. *Medical Sociology.* Pp. xvi, 355. Price, \$2.00. New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1909.

Backed by three thousand years of experience and over two centuries of the application of scientific methods, the medical profession to-day is prepared to render the broadest social service. Modern philanthropy is no longer content with merely relieving individual distress. It seeks out the causes of disease and poverty and takes measures to remove them and to promote efficiency. The author in this volume has declared it to be the special aim of medical science to investigate the conditions which destroy health and to study their prevention. "The plea that goes out to the public from the great heart of the medical profession to-day is that prevention shall take the place of cure." It appeals to the people to take measures to stop typhoid, tuberculosis, yellow fever, and syphilis.

A happier selection of title for the work is to be found in the sub-title, "The Relations of Medicine to Society." It is not a particular brand of sociology that the author is setting forth. It is the relation of a long established science to the welfare of the community. Our laws have long recognized that sickness and health were matters of the gravest social concern. But law is inadequate without education. Medical science must furnish the authoritative information which will place prevention largely in the hands of the public.

R. E. CHADDOCK.

University of Pennsylvania.

Woodruff, C. E. *Expansion of Races.* Pp. xi, 495. Price, \$4.00. New York: Rebman Company, 1909.

The title of the book is misleading as it deals primarily not with the expansion of races, but with the diffusion and growth of the population. Population is described as a fluid which flows in response to economic stimuli. Malthus is quoted as authority for the statement that the food supply will ultimately be overtaken by population, the author maintaining that we are now in the throes of a nitrogen famine as a result of supersaturation. The food of the Anglo-Saxon race has been chiefly nitrogenous, but in the last few decades the cost of nitrogenous foods has risen to such a point that it is above the purchasing capacity of most members of the community. As a consequence a lower and lower standard of efficiency is maintained by each succeeding generation which is able to produce less and less nitrogenous food. One of the most interesting illustrations of this world-wide phenomenon is a diminishing birth-rate, which is making itself felt in every civilization dominated by the Anglo-Saxon race.

Race suicide represents an attempt by the Anglo-Saxon people to adjust population to the nitrogen supply, and in so far as it is successful it is most salutary in its effect. Population, however, will keep on increasing as it has always done and as it does so the nitrogen starvation will become more and more acute.